

1. Introduction to the CST-CEE Initiative and the CST-CEE 2020 Project

In 2017, the Faculty of Social Sciences at the Pontifical University of St Thomas ran a “baseline project” to find out what Catholic Social Thought (CST) was being taught in the Catholic Higher Education Institutions (CHEI) of Central and Eastern Europe (CEE). The project was called “CST-CEE”.

Here are some of the results: 15 Countries with 95 CHEI (6 Countries with no CHEI); 85 institutions in 13 countries provide CST courses; 218 courses on CST offered, of which 207 were active in the 2016-2017; 115 professors involved; 6 teach in more than one institution. Courses per institution: max 15, average 2.8; courses per professor: max 6, average 1.7.

The **CST-CEE 2020 project** addresses the key weakness found in the CST-CEE baseline, that is, **a lack of networking in the area of CST among CHEI in CEE.**

It is an **innovative transnational network and capacity building project**, aimed at sustaining and improving collaboration among institutions and experts from the CEE region, to spread, reinforce and improve the teaching of CST. Ultimately, it aims to support the creation of a pan-European capacity to understand, enact and develop CST in the European context.

The **CST-CEE 2020** project is composed of two elements:

1. **Setting up an “Expert Council” composed of specialists in CST from the CEE;**
2. **Running a summer school, June 24-29 2018, for young scholars from CEE and setting up the first stage of a “CST-CEE Task Force”.**

It is with the second of these two elements that this “Call for Applications” is concerned.

2. Objectives of the CST-CEE Initiative and the CST-CEE 2020 Project

Overall CST-CEE initiative objective

Sustain and improve collaboration in a transnational network among institutions and experts from the CEE region, to spread, reinforce and improve the teaching of CST.

CST-CEE 2020 Objectives

Start setting up the network (both students and experts) and start capacity building (students).

The specific objectives of CST-CEE 2020 regarding the students are:

- ✓ identify students to be involved;
- ✓ involve all students in the July 2018 summer school;
- ✓ select 3 to be the initial core of the “CST-CEE Task Force”;
- ✓ define study/research programs for the next two academic years (from October 2018 to September 2020);
- ✓ support the first group of students in the Task Force

Summer school: 8 students selected from 8 different countries of the CEE region;

Task Force members: 3 of the 8 participants in the summer school will be accepted into the licentiate programme in the FASS, constituting the initial core of the Taskforce.

3. The Summer School: June 24 – 29 2018

- ✓ Work together on potential topics for the licence theses: key social issues and problems facing the CEE, starting from the perspective of CST;
- ✓ Meet key experts in the Faculty of Social Sciences and in international organisations in Rome, including the EU Ambassador to the Holy See, the Secretariat of State of the Holy See, top officials of Caritas Internationalis;
- ✓ Do an Italian language course (16 hours)
- ✓ Make the most of being in Rome – Mass with the Pope on the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, visit to the Vatican Palace, chances to visit other pilgrimage and archaeological sites in Rome...

4. Taskforce Objectives

- ✓ Each student will carry forward a project that can support the development of CST in CEE. The Expert Council will contribute to the selection of the students' study topics; the students themselves will also have a say in what topics are chosen;
- ✓ As a task force, the students will support the work of the Expert Council, building capacity in the network.

5. Student Profile for Summer School and Task Force

- ✓ First cycle degree (180 credits) in one of the following areas (if more than one area is covered, it is an advantage):
 - Ethics/CST, Sociology, Psychology, Anthropology, Economics, Business, Social Communications, Political Science, History, Law, International Relations;
 - It is possible to consider someone with a first degree in theology or philosophy, but we would expect the optional courses taken by such a student to demonstrate an interest in social questions and the student should be prepared to do extra credits in the first year so as to make up gaps in their prior formation;
- ✓ Demonstrated interest in practical social action: politics, economics, social problems, church action . . .
 - We are especially interested in students who have shown interest in the issues of prime concern to Pope Francis: connecting with, and outreach to, the socially excluded; addressing homelessness; care of migrants; an integral ecology and care for our common home.
- ✓ English at B1 level; ideally, B1 competence in at least one other language of the CEE; some capacity in Italian is an advantage, but not necessary;
- ✓ We do not set an age limit on applicants, but, other things being equal, we will favour younger candidates;
- ✓ We will select 8 candidates for the summer school from among the following countries:
 - Belarus, Bosnia Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Ukraine
- ✓ After the successful completion of the summer school, we will select 3 as the first members of the CST-CEE Taskforce. They will be invited to return to Rome in September 2018 to begin a language programme in Italian and a general orientation to the project, in order to start their studies for a Licence in Social Sciences with the Faculty of Social Sciences at the Angelicum in October 2018. Information can be found [here](#).

6. What costs are covered?

Summer school:

- ✓ travel to and from Rome;
- ✓ accommodation for 5 nights (June 24 – June 28; arrival June 24; departure June 29);
- ✓ three meals a day during the summer school.

All other expenses to be covered by the students

Task force:

- ✓ all academic fees (Licence programme + Italian language course);
- ✓ accommodation in a student residence;
- ✓ scholarship of 400 Euro per month;
- ✓ costs of visa (if necessary) and residence documents;
- ✓ registration with national health system;
- ✓ travel to and from the home country once a year.

7. Application Procedure and deadlines

Each candidate should produce the following documentation:

- ✓ Motivation letter;
- ✓ Curriculum Vitae (possibly in standard European or Europass format); the CV must be dated and signed;
- ✓ Copy of the first cycle degree (and eventually any other additional degrees) with transcript of the courses;
- ✓ Presentation Letter from a University Professor.

Contacts: Candidates may address any additional request, as well their final documentation, to: fass@pust.it

Deadline: April 15, 2018

Date: February 9, 2018



Prof. Helen Alford, O.P.
Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences